

**Citizen's Transportation Oversight Committee**  
**Arizona Department of Transportation**

**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 31, 2004**

A Citizen's Transportation Oversight Committee (CTOC) meeting was held at the Arizona Department of Transportation, Board Room 145-147, 206 South 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 on March 31, 2004 with Chairperson Roc Arnett presiding.

**Board Members Present:**

Roc Arnett, Chairperson  
Terry Rainey, Maricopa County District 1  
Jim Lykins, Maricopa County District 2  
Ron Gawlitta, Maricopa County District 3  
Paul Schwartz, Maricopa County District 4

**Board Members Absent:**

Benjamin M. Bethel, Maricopa County District 5  
Dwight Amery, Member-at-Large

**Others Present:**

Elizabeth Neville, Regional Fwy. Sys. ADOT  
Bill Hayden, Special Assist. RFS ADOT  
Kwi-Sung Kang, Trans. Eng. ADOT  
Dale Buskirk, Trans. Planning, ADOT  
Joseph B. Ryan, Citizen

Sandra Quijada, AZ/Mexico ADOT  
John Walradt, Com. Rel. ADOT  
William "Blue" Crowley, Citizen  
Ed Johnson, Citizen

**1. Call To Order:**

Chairperson Arnett called the Citizen's Transportation Oversight Committee meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. He introduced Terry Rainey a new Board member from Districts 1. He then presented a Certificate of Recognition to Paul Schwartz in appreciation of 6 years dedicated service and commitment to the State of Arizona.

**2. Approval of Minutes, January 20, 2004:**

Chairman Arnett called for a motion. Ron Gawlitta moved to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2004 meeting. Mr. Lykins seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

### **3. Staff Report:**

**Bill Hayden, Special Assist. RFS ADOT**, reported the following information:

- The Quiet Pavement Program Phase II project has started at I-10, 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Van Buren Street; 101L Price, US 60 to Chandler Boulevard; 101L Pima, McKellips Road to 90<sup>th</sup> Street; 202L Red Mountain, Alma School Road to Gilbert Road; and 202L Red Mountain, Val Vista Drive to Higley Drive. We have received several emails and phone calls from citizens asking why so much work is being done at one time. Unfortunately, there will be major closures on the 101L and portions of the Red Mountain over the next five to six weeks.
- Construction of the Wild Horse Pass Traffic Interchange (TI) is expected to be completed in March or April 2004. The new structure, signals and street lights are operational. A ceremony involving the Gila River Indian Community Administration, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, tribal members, and ADOT staff will be held April 2 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Transportation Board has awarded a \$54 million contract to Pulice Construction to build 3.9 miles of the Santan Freeway between Power Road and Elliott.
- Bill Higgins has completed 21 years of service and is officially retiring.

The following questions and comments were made:

- In response to Mr. Lykin's question, Mr. Hayden briefly explained the multi-step process for preparing the roadway and laying rubberized asphalt.

### **4. Move Arizona Plan:**

**Dale Buskirk, Transportation Planning ADOT**, explained MoveAZ is a long-range transportation plan for Arizona intended to help ADOT evaluate the performance impacts of planning decisions. He said the plan will also help identify and prioritize problems that can be effectively and efficiently solved through the development of a project. He emphasized that MoveAZ is not a replacement of all of ADOT's planning, project development, and programming processes. He discussed the coordination effort, noting 12 Working Group meetings were held to discuss plan milestones. He stated 12 stakeholder meetings and 17 regional forums were held across the State during the two rounds of public involvement. He said non-metropolitan local elected officials have met four times and are expected to meet four more times in the early spring of 2004. He stated the Continuity Team held seven meetings with ADOT engineering staff and individual meetings with each District Engineer.

Mr. Buskirk explained three funding scenarios were created and evaluated, a constrained scenario based on current projections, a reasonably anticipated revenues scenario, and an

unconstrained scenario. He said the MoveAZ plan uses the RAAC funding allocations of 37 percent for MAG, 13 percent for PAG and 50 percent for the rest of the State. He stated the funding is divided into two broad categories, subprograms and major projects. Mr. Buskirk reported 20 regional open houses will be held in March and April 2004 wherein stakeholders and the public will have an opportunity to comment on the draft plan components. He said they anticipate presenting the final plan to the Transportation Board at its May meeting.

The following questions and comments were made:

- Mr. Gawlitta asked by what means were the public and stakeholder meetings advertised. Mr. Buskirk stated press releases were prepared for each of the public and stakeholder meetings. He said they also worked with regional planning agencies and a consulting firm to advertise the meetings. Mr. Gawlitta said he never saw a notification of the meetings published in any of the newspapers. Chairperson Arnett suggested staff notify CTOC members directly when meetings are scheduled. Mr. Buskirk offered to hold a similar open house specifically for CTOC members.
- Chairperson Arnett pointed out the MoveAZ plan relates to the balance of the State, explaining the portion of the State over which CTOC has oversight is covered in the next 20 year plan. Mr. Buskirk agreed, noting the State Transportation Board incorporated the MAG Long Range Plan into MoveAZ by resolution. Chairperson Arnett suggested members attend the May 4 meeting in Phoenix, stating it will be of the most significance to CTOC.
- Chairperson Arnett requested copies of the list of projects and map.

## **5. MAG Life Cycle Program:**

**Kwi Kang, Transportation Engineer, ADOT**, explained the Life Cycle Program has three major funding sources, RARF, HURF and the Federal Aid Fund. He reported, to date, 103 miles of the new freeway system have been opened to traffic, 13 miles are under construction, 22 miles are under design and 8,377 acres of right-of-way have been acquired. He said the Santan Freeway, from the I-10 TI and the Price Freeway TI opened in November 2003. He stated the Transportation Board has awarded six construction projects, four on the Santan Freeway and two on the Red Mountain. He said project costs were updated based on the latest cost estimates. He said they also added and updated local government funding and consolidated two Santan Freeway construction projects into one project. He stated they created a separate utility project on the Red Mountain Freeway and changed a project's description to better define the project limits. Mr. Kang reviewed the program schedule, stating PPAC and the Transportation Board approved the tentative program for public comment in February 2004 and the MAG TRC, Management Committee and Regional Council approved the tentative program in March 2004. He said public hearings will be held in March and April and the Board is expected to adopt the 2005-2007 Program in June 2004.

**6. Proposed FY 2009 Projects:**

**Bill Hayden, Special Assist. RFS ADOT**, stated the FY 2005-2009 Tentative Construction Program for the MAG Region has a cooperatively developed funding estimate and was fully coordinated through a stakeholders and public involvement process. He said the MAG Funding estimate of \$192.6 million minus \$30.3 million for the MAG Sub-Program estimate leaves \$162.3 million available to program in 2009. He identified a list of five construction projects for FY 2009 as well as administrative projects, including debt service for the acceleration of the Regional Freeway System, a DCR/EIS study for future projects; design funding for 2011 and 2012 construction projects, and funding for TI improvement projects.

**7. Call to the Public:**

**Joesph B. Ryan, Citizen**, submitted a letter and several exhibits. He asked the Committee to vote to cancel the Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail Transit project, stating it will result in an increase in air pollution and vehicle miles traveled and will not be cost efficient or effective. He expressed his opinion people voted for the project because the ballot inaccurately showed rapid transit going to all corners of the valley and advertisements misleadingly showed stations in the middle of the street and purported a cost of \$43 million per mile. He said, in possible violation of accounting practices, he has witnessed invoices in the amount of \$20,000 related to marketing Transit 2000 bundled and invoiced to the City of Phoenix and charged to Professional Services.

Chairperson Arnett pointed out the Committee has no authority to discuss the light rail issue.

**William “Blue” Crowley, Citizen**, said he is offended when Mr. Buskirk implies the rural lifestyle is not what it is supposed to be, stating almost 70 to 80 percent of the valley enjoys a rural lifestyle. He stated he has often said they need to address the rest of the state, bringing those roads up to par. He said eight of the 20 meetings could be held in rural areas, pointing out the plan does not include the reservations. He stated using the same right-of-way for light rail will keep the State from having to pay the company to move it from one place to another. He questioned whether Chairperson Arnett truly represents the region when he attends meetings. He expressed concern that the decision to appoint the Committee's Chairperson and Members at Large has moved out of the hands of the Governor. He urged the Committee members to vote no on the half-cent sales tax, stating a better regional plan exists.

**8. Next Scheduled Meeting:**

Tuesday, May 18, 2004, 4:30 p.m.  
Arizona Department of Transportation  
206 South 17th Avenue  
Transportation Board Rm. 145-147  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

**9. CTOC Member Reports:**

**Mr. Gawlitta** referenced Page 11 of the Annual Report, stating light rail never went to a public vote in Tempe. Mr. Hayden acknowledged the error, stating it was a City Council action.

**Chairperson Arnett** noted the Committee will vote on the CTOC Annual Report at its next meeting.

**Mr. Schwartz** encouraged the Committee to take more interest in the West Valley, expressing his opinion there needs to be another freeway going west from the Loop 101. He commented on traffic problems on Bell Road and other arterial streets, stating another freeway would help alleviate the congestion. He complimented ADOT staff, stating their presentations have been outstanding.

**10. Closing comments and Adjournment:**

No comments were made.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.**